



U.S. Department of Justice

National Drug Intelligence Center

NDIC VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: November 15, 2005

Closing Date: December 15, 2005

POSTING NUMBER: #235-ND-05

LOCATION: Johnstown, Pennsylvania

TITLE: Chief Counsel

WORKING HOURS: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SERIES/GRADE: GS-0905-15

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All Sources

NUMBER OF VACANCIES: 1

The National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) is seeking an experienced attorney to work as Chief Counsel. NDIC is a multiagency organization responsible for collecting and consolidating multisource strategic organizational drug intelligence for use by national policymakers, diverse law enforcement entities, and the Intelligence Community to promote information sharing among these entities and to promote compatibility standards for drug intelligence information collection systems.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The NDIC Chief Counsel provides legal advice on extremely complex and difficult legal questions of law. Incumbent advises on the most complex administrative policy involved in the operations of NDIC and its contacts with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and other federal agencies. Incumbent interprets regulations; monitors compliance; and reviews, analyzes, and comments on legislation by other Departmental organizations, other federal agencies, and Congress. The questions and advice provided may involve extremely sensitive issues and procedures pertaining to the mission of NDIC.

As advisor to the Director, confers and negotiates with top officials of DOJ as well as other departments, federal agencies, and staff in resolving legal issues, formulating policies, implementing new policies and programs, and promoting acceptance. Evaluates and prepares comprehensive reports and makes recommendations regarding the effects of policies and proposed changes in pending legislation or proposed changes in existing legislation and their impact on the operations of NDIC.

Responsible for reviewing NDIC policies, procedures, and regulations to ensure they are consistent with the intent of the law and are administratively sound, efficient, and economical in operation. Incumbent maintains liaison with the Solicitor General's Office, DOJ, to further facilitate receipt of new Supreme Court decisions which may impact NDIC policies and/or procedures.

Qualification Requirements:

Interested parties must possess a J.D. degree, be an active member of the bar (any jurisdiction), and have at least 10-years post-J.D. experience.

Additional Qualifications:

Applicants must have completed at least 1-year time in grade as a GS-0905-14 or equivalent at the time of application.

Candidate must have superior academic credentials and exceptional written and oral communication skills.

Experience should demonstrate rendering legal advice with respect to questions, regulations, practices, or other matters falling within the purview of a federal or state government agency.

Knowledge of and experience in Administrative Law, Personnel/Employment Law, Ethics Law, Freedom of Information Act/Privacy Act, National Security Law, and litigation is desirable.

Applicant must be proficient in computer aided legal research and computer word processing.

Pay, Benefits, and Work Schedule:

Current salary and years of experience will determine the appropriate salary step within the GS-15 level (\$100,129 – \$130,173).

Promotion potential: None

This position will be filled on a full-time permanent basis. Upon completing any required probationary period, the position will be permanent.

In addition to competitive wages and excellent working conditions, NDIC offers a comprehensive package of benefits to federal employees.

Conditions of Employment:

This position requires a Top Secret security clearance. Therefore, applicants will be required to successfully complete a **background security investigation, polygraph examination, and drug test**. Loss of Top Secret security clearance would result in termination of employment.

Occasional travel may be required.

Candidates and their immediate families must be U.S. citizens.

Applicants must be within the guidelines of the NDIC Employment Drug Policy. Please read this section carefully before applying.

NDIC EMPLOYMENT DRUG POLICY

NDIC is firmly committed to a drug-free society and workplace. Therefore, the unlawful use of drugs by NDIC employees will not be tolerated. Furthermore, applicants for employment with NDIC who currently are using illegal drugs will be found unsuitable for employment. NDIC does not condone any prior unlawful drug use by applicants. NDIC realizes, however, some otherwise qualified applicants may have used drugs at some point in their past. The following policy sets forth the criteria for determining whether any prior drug use makes an applicant unsuitable for employment, balancing the needs of NDIC to maintain a drug-free workplace and the public integrity necessary to accomplish its law enforcement mission. Applicants who do not meet these criteria should not apply for the position.

CRITERIA

- A. An applicant who has used any illegal drug while employed in any law enforcement or prosecutorial position or while employed in a position that carries with it a high level of responsibility or public trust will be found unsuitable for employment.
- B. An applicant who is discovered to have misrepresented his/her drug history in completing the application will be found unsuitable for employment.
- C. An applicant who has sold any illegal drug for profit at any time will be found unsuitable for employment.
- D. An applicant who has used any illegal drug other than marijuana within the last 10 years *or* more than five times in one's life will be found unsuitable for employment.
- E. An applicant who has used marijuana within the past 3 years *or* more than a total of 15 times in one's life will be found unsuitable for employment.

To determine whether you meet the NDIC drug policy, please answer the following questions:

- 1) Have you used marijuana at all within the last 3 years?
- 2) Have you used marijuana more than a total of 15 times in your life?
- 3) Have you used any other illegal drug at all within the past 10 years?
- 4) Have you used any other illegal drug (including anabolic steroids after February 27, 1991) more than a total of five times in your life?
- 5) Have you ever sold any illegal drug for profit?
- 6) Have you ever used an illegal drug (no matter how many times or how long ago) while in a law enforcement or prosecutorial position or in a position which carries with it a high level of responsibility or public trust?

If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, you should NOT apply for the position. They are immediate disqualifiers.

In accordance with Executive order 12564, applicants selected for this position are required to submit to a drug test and receive a negative drug test result prior to appointment. In addition, this position is a drug-testing designated position subject to random testing for illegal drug use.

Other Information:

This position is in the Excepted Service. It is excluded from provisions of the career transition assistance program.

Your Social Security Number (SSN) is requested under the authority of Executive Order 9397 to uniquely identify your records from those of other applicants who may have the same name. As allowed by law or Presidential directive, your SSN is used to seek information about you from employers, schools, banks, and others who may know you. Failure to provide your SSN on your application materials will result in your application not being processed.

Before being hired, you will be required to sign and certify the accuracy of the information in your application.

If you make a false statement in any part of your application, you may not be hired; you may be fired after you begin work; or you may be subject to fine, imprisonment, or other disciplinary action.

Employees who received a buyout and subsequently return to positions in federal agencies, whether by re-employment or contracts for personal services, are generally obligated to repay the full amount of the buyout to the agency that paid it.

There is no formal rating system for applying veterans' preference to attorney appointments in the excepted service; however, DOJ considers veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in attorney hiring. Applicants eligible for veterans' preference are encouraged to include that information in their cover letter or resume and attach supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214 or other substantiating documents) to their submissions.

Employment may be denied as a result of information of which the applicant is genuinely unaware or by an assessment that an applicant does not meet the agency's overall employment criteria. A negative employment determination by the agency is final, and normally no specific reasons regarding non-selection will be made. Employment with NDIC is not a right upon which an applicant can insist. NDIC notifies all applicants in writing of the outcome of their application.

Attorney appointments to NDIC are made by the Director, DOJ, Office of Attorney Recruitment and Management.

Applicants must meet all qualification requirements at the time of application.

How to Apply:

Please submit the following documents to the address provided in this announcement:

1. A detailed resume and/or OF-612* form (Application for Federal Employment). Completed form should include the names and telephone numbers of current and former supervisors. Application must be typed or printed clearly in dark ink.
2. A cover letter highlighting relevant experience.
3. A professional legal writing sample (not to exceed 10 pages).

4. A list of three references who are not related to you. At least two references should know your qualifications and fitness for the kind of job for which you are applying; one should know you well on a personal basis. The person's full name, telephone number(s) (including area code), and present business or home address are needed. Providing this information constitutes permission to contact these references.
5. A completed SF-181* form (Race and National Origin Identification). (Optional)
6. A completed and signed OF-306* form (Declaration for Federal Employment).
7. A copy of transcripts showing J.D. degree conferred and cumulative grade point average.
8. Current or prior federal employees must submit a copy of their most recent performance appraisal (must be within the past 15 months from the closing date of the announcement). Applicants unable to provide their most recent performance appraisal must provide written justification for its absence.
9. Current or prior federal employees applying for this position must submit a copy of their most recent SF-50 (Notification of Personnel Action) showing position title, series, and grade.

*The Optional and Standard Forms (OF-612, SF-181, and OF-306) are available in two formats on our web site at www.usdoj.gov/ndic:

OF-612	<u>MS Word</u>	<u>PDF</u>
SF-181	<u>MS Word</u>	<u>PDF</u>
OF-306	<u>MS Word</u>	<u>PDF</u>

Please note that these forms **must be completed in MS Word** format if you wish to submit your application package electronically. These forms can also be downloaded from the following web site: www.opm.gov/forms.

APPLICATIONS LACKING ANY/ALL OF THE INFORMATION LISTED IN THE "HOW TO APPLY" SECTION OF THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

Failure to submit all required documents and information requested by the closing date of this announcement will result in your not receiving full consideration. Missing information will not be requested. Applicants' qualifications will be evaluated solely on the information submitted in their applications. Materials submitted as part of your application will not be returned.

Please do not submit your application package in a notebook or binder with extraneous information. Applicants should provide sufficient information to enable the Human Resources Unit (HRU) to properly evaluate your application against the Qualification Standards, time-in-grade, and/or time after competitive appointment restrictions.

For additional information about this position, please contact:

Ms. Diane Vitko
Human Resources Specialist (Staffing and Recruitment)
(814) 532-4676
NDIC.Jobs@usdoj.gov

Submission Options

Once your employment package is completed, there are several different ways of sending it to HRU at NDIC. Please note that only employment related correspondence will be accepted.

The submission methods include:

Postal Mail: National Drug Intelligence Center
ATTN: HRU #235-ND-05
319 Washington Street, 5th Floor
Johnstown, PA 15901-1622

Unclassified Fax: Required information faxed to: (814) 532-5809
Attention: HRU #235-ND-05

Electronic Mail: Application packages consisting of Microsoft Word documents and scanned file attachments may be sent via e-mail to:
NDIC.Jobs@usdoj.gov.

Internal Applicants: Submit applications to HRU.

Applicants choosing fax or electronic mail must send their entire application package in one transmission by the closing date of this announcement. Partial or incomplete applications using any submission method will not be considered.

Mailed applications will not be accepted postmarked after the closing date.

Internal applications must be received by close of business on the closing date to receive consideration.

NDIC is a secured facility. No applications will be accepted at the guard station.

DOJ is an Equal Opportunity/Reasonable Accommodation Employer. Except where otherwise provided by law, there will be no discrimination based on color, race, religion, national origin, politics, marital status, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, status as a parent, membership or nonmembership in an employee organization, or personal favoritism. DOJ welcomes and encourages applications from persons with physical and mental disabilities. The Department is firmly committed to satisfying its affirmative obligations under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to ensure that persons with disabilities have every opportunity to be hired and advanced on the basis of merit within the DOJ. This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring

process, please notify the agency. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

NOTE: This Excepted Service position will be filled under the NDIC Schedule A appointing authority. A successful candidate currently employed by another federal agency will be converted to the NDIC appointment from their current employing agency.